Government of India is also implementing a Centrally sponsored "Integrated Scheme of Oilseeds, Pulses, Oilpalm and Maize (ISOPOM) in the country from 1 st April, 2004 to increase production and productivity of these crops.

Benefit of agriculture to American companies

†1208. SHRI LAXMINARAYAN SHARMA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal to extend the benefit of agriculture to American companies following an agreement between India and America; and

(b) the details of loss likely to be incurred on Indian farmers due to this?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) In Indo-US knowledge Initiative on Agriculture/which is under active consideration, there is no proposal to extend benefit of agriculture to American Companies.

(b) Does not arise.

Private sector participation in Indo-US knowledge initiative

1209. SHRI A. VIJAYARAGHAVAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are many private sector representatives in the Board of Indo-US Knowledge Initiative on Agricultural Research and Education;

(b) if so, the details thereof including the members of the board, as on today;

(c) the purpose of above board and the details of initiatives made in the first meeting of the above board;

(d) whether the initial initiative is mainly funded for research in transgenic and bio-technology; and

(e) if so, the details of funding to the board including the sourco of fund?

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) Out of 16 Board members, 8 each are from India and US. In the Board 5 members are private sector representatives, 3 from USA and 2 from India.

(b) Details in the Statement (See below).

(c) Purpose: To promote a new US-India Knowledge Initiative on agricultural education and research service and commercial linkages.

In its first meeting, the Board selected the following priority and key areas of focus:—

1. Human Resource and Institutional Capacity building (Cross cutting areas): Education learning resources, curriculum development and training.
2. Agri-Processing and Marketing: (i) Food Processing (ii) Use of bio-products and bio-fuels.
3. Emerging Technologies: Biotechnology
4. Natural Resource Management: Water Management

(d) Biotechnology including transgenics is one of the four key areas indicated in (c) above.

(e) Source and details of funding are being worked out.

Statement

US-India Knowledae Initiative Board Members

United States	India
Honrary Advisor	Honrary Advisor
Dr. Norman Borlaug	Dr. M.S. Swaminathan
Co-Chair	Co-Chair
Ellen Terpstera	Mangala Rai
Administrator USDA/FAS	Secretary, DARE & DG, ICAR
Universities	Universities
• Mort Neufville Executive Vice-President National Association of State Universities and Land Grant Colleges (NASULGC)	• Prem Lai Gautam Vice-Chancellor Govind Ballabh Pant University of Agriculture & Technology, Pantnagar (Uttaranchal)

United States -	India
• Bobby Moser Vice-President and Executive Dean, College of Food, Agriculture and Environmental Sciences The Ohio State University	• C. Ramasamy Vice-Chancellor Tamil Nadu Agricultural University Coimbatore (Tamil Nadu)
• Surendra P. Singh Professor, Agri-business Tennessee State University	• M.P. Yadav Director Indian Veterinary Research Institute Izatnagar, Uttar Pradesh
Non-Government Organization	Government
Marshall Bouton Executive Director Chicago Council on Foreign Relations	• Jai Shankar Joint Secretary (America) Ministry of External Affairs • S.L Bhat Joint Secretary Department of Agriculture & Cooperation Ministry of Agriculture
Private Sector	Private Sector
• Michael D. Dykes Monsanto	• Anuradha Desai Venkateswara Hatcheries Ltd., Pune
• Tres Bailey Wal-mart • Shanon Herzfeld Archer Daniels, Midland Company	• S. Siva Kumar Agri-business, ITC Ltd., New Delhi